



REVIEW ARTICLE

Role of Telangana Library Association in Imparting Professional Ethics

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ABSTRACT

This Paper discusses the professional ethics which are important to maintain standards in the professional performance. It also makes a person realize the responsibilities as a library/information professional in imparting the duties by following the professional ethics and also highlights the guiding principles that govern the library professionals to follow their professional ethics through five laws of library science which have been given by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan.

Keywords: Ethics, Profession, Professional, Professionalism, Professional ethics, Five Laws of Library science, Telangana Library Association.

1. INTRODUCTION

Ethics: Ethics means a set of moral principles. Professional associations are playing vital role in developing ethical values among professionals by conducting seminars, workshops, conferences etc.

Profession: It means an occupation or job which a person gets depending on her/his educational qualification/s. It is a means of her/his livelihood whereas profession is an occupation which requires special knowledge and training in some field or the other.

A Professional: A Person who has some expertise in a field and works to earn his livelihood through that expertise. For example: Doctors, Teachers, Engineers etc. Who are all experts in their respective fields.

Professionalism: It is a method which is followed by an expert to do her/his own work and

also take work from their colleagues with commitment to achieve the goals of the institution.

Professional Ethics: Expression of ethos like character, spirit, culture, practice etc. of an occupation is considered as professional ethics. It should provide information about the occupation, its basic values, practitioner's thoughts and their place in the society.

Ethical problems can be solved through debates, publication in the journals, training programs etc. which are essential for improving the current professional practices and adopt suitable behaviour.

There is a need to develop interest among professionals about the professional ethics which are essential for the development of the professionals. The ethics are getting changed according to the changing needs of the society.

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2. PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIANS

Professional Librarians in various disciplines realize the characteristics like subjects proficiency, information provider, service orientation, motivator etc. The five Laws of Library Science given by Ranganathan also act as a guiding principles that motivate the professionals towards ethics which help in evolving themselves into professional librarians.

2.1 Five Laws given by Ranganathan are:

- Books are for use.
- Every reader his book.
- Every book its reader.
- Save the time of the reader.
- Library is a growing organism.

These laws convey fundamental philosophy and a deep understanding of the libraries. The basic tenet of these laws is to unite users with their desired information.

2.2 ALA Ethical code

The ALA Ethical code maintains relationship with

- A] Ruling body
- B] The library staff
- C] Their job and
- D] Community

These Codes comprised a preamble and four categories of ethical responsibilities to:

- A] Every persons
- B] Community
- C] The job holder, and
- D] The job.

3. PROFESSIONAL BODIES

In every country, there may be one or more than one professional bodies which will have different goals to be attained.

3.1 Professional Associations

Professional associations are made for the professionals to promote awareness among them

about that field. For example: Telangana State Library Association.

These Associations are formed by the participation of members in the programmes and activities conducted by them.

3.2 Need and Importance of Professional Associations

For any institutions to be successful in reaching their goals they need a collective action by the members of that institution which is not possible with professional person of that institution alone. For this purpose, there is a need for professional associations.

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

- To spread the library movement, knowledge and information in the country.
- To work for the development of the public library legislation.
- To make people aware of the libraries which demand the right of access to the public libraries.
- To struggle for the existence of the national library and information system.
- To make authorities aware of the deficiencies, in the present library resources.
- To provide a suitable environment for library professionals to exchange their information etc.
- To gain status in the society, the library professionals should form a relationship with other library professionals.
- To provide inter-library loan services.
- To improve the field of library and information science, continuing education, relevant programmes are needed.

5. PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

Conferences: Library associations should organize conferences, seminars, lectures, etc.

5.1 Popularity Of Libraries

To propagate among the people, library associations should organize library weeks, exhibitions, book fairs, competitions, etc.

Other Matters: Library associations also should solve the other service related matters like salary, grades, increments etc.

Educational Programmes: Library associations should provide continuing education programmes for working professionals.

Publications: Should publish new letters seminar volumes etc.

Survey: To foster cooperation among the libraries, they should formulate standard guide lines for consultancy services, research techniques, tools and equipment.

They should conduct research survey of: the facilities and services provided by libraries, user demands etc.

Relation: Should maintain relationship with associations of other countries in order to gain knowledge from them and make the association strong with status and standard.

5.2 Telangana State Library Association [TSLA]

Telangana State Library Association was established in 2014 after the formation of the Telangana State and was inaugurated on late Dr. S. R. Ranganathan's Birth day [i.e. on 9th August 2014]. Its main objectives are enhancing professional ethics among LIS professionals, consolidation of libraries, promotion of public/academic libraries, enhancing the skills and competence building of LIS professionals etc. It also organizes several programmes to enhance professionalism and strives for the development of the libraries and librarianship in Telangana State. The Association's head quarter is located in Hyderabad and it has more than 240 life members.

India celebrates librarian's day on 12th August to honour Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, the father of library science. This year it is 125th birthday of Dr. Ranganathan; and, as a part of celebration, the national seminar is being organized by the president of Telangana State Library Association Prof. N. Laxman Rao on 12th and 13th August, 2017, at Sarojini Naidu Vanita Pharmacy Maha Vidyalaya, Tarnaka, Hyderabad.

5.3 National Seminar

The theme of the Seminar is most appropriate in the content of ever changing technological advancements adopted in the academic libraries. The Sub themes are:

1. Emerging Technologies for libraries.
2. Areas of transformation including new services due to technology implementation.
3. Information Literacy.
4. Open Educational Resources.
5. OA Resources.
6. Library Human Resource Development in Technology Era.
7. Resource sharing between Academic public and other libraries.
8. Changes in LIS Education.
9. Management of Digital Resources.
10. Academic Library consortia model.
11. Case studies etc.

The number of members from different States that participated in this two-day National Seminar on Transformation of Academic Libraries in Technology Era is 136. There are 22 papers published in the seminar volume. The volume includes both contributory and theme papers.

5.1. The Titles are

1. Born Digital Resources in Ramesh Mohan Library of EFLU: Their Use Impact
2. E-Resources and their Utility in Academic Libraries
3. Access and Use of UGC-Infonet E-Resources by Faculty Members and Post-Graduate Students at University library, Dravidian University, Kuppam, Chittoor District- A. P.
4. Pattern of E-Resources Usage in St. Ann's College for Women, Mehdiapatnam, Hyderabad: A Study
5. E-Resources in Academic Libraries: A User Study
6. Impact of SMS Technology on Library Services
7. Information Technology in Academic Libraries: An Overview
8. User Satisfaction in Engineering Institutions' Libraries: A Case Study of Kakatiya Institute of Technology and Science [Autonomous], Warangal [TS]

9. Reading Habits Vis-à-vis Academic Performance: A study of University Library Users of Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda-TS.
10. Library and Information Centre – Infrastructure and services of Ramesh Mohan Library, EFL University, Hyderabad: A study
11. Best Practices Adopted in IGM Library, University of Hyderabad
12. Green Library: Library of the 21st Century
13. Big Data analytics: Search Strategies and Applications in Libraries
14. Implementation of Plagiarism Checking
15. Web based Legal Information Resources in Digital Era
16. Information Literacy: Role O Libraries in Promoting Information Literacy in Digital Environment
17. Transformation in Information Literacy
18. Job Strategies for Human Resource Development in Public Libraries of Telangana
19. Lateral Thinking by Library Professionals in the digital Environment: A study
20. Research in Urdu Literature in University Of Hyderabad: A Bibliometric study
21. Role of ICT in Human Resource Development in Academic Libraries in modern Era
22. Role of LIS Education in Transformation of Libraries

By attending this workshop and becoming a member of TSLA, I gained immense Information and also got updated with information in the field of Library and Information science.

6. CONCLUSION

Professional ethics should be followed by the Librarians to improve libraries and their services. They should take the membership of the local, State and national level professional associations. They should pursue education in order to improve their skills, knowledge and qualifications. They should participate in research and other activities to improve the library services.

Librarians should provide the best services to the library users not only complying with their

requests, but also providing information to those who are in need.

Librarians should provide Inter-library loan services. They should also provide services to those who are in need of information about the facility.

Librarians should therefore protect and preserve sources of information for future use.

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